

Egypt

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Vice Admiral Fuad Zikry, Commander in Chief,
Egyptian Navy
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

DATE & TIME: Wednesday - July 14, 1976
10:35 - 10:54 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

President: I have heard about the ship [the yacht "El-Horria" at the Navy Yard]. How many men have you?

Zikry: We have augmented a crew for this trip, I have ____ in the crew.

President: Where was it built?

Zikry: In Scotland. It has been lengthened twice. It was the first ship to sail through the Suez Canal when it opened and again it was the first ship to go through when it reopened last year.

[More discussion on the ship.]

President: I am very pleased to welcome you and we very much appreciate your thoughtful Bicentennial gift [an 18th Dynasty stele]. I have developed great admiration for President Sadat over the period I have known him. I have enjoyed working with him on the problems we both face. Please give him my warm greetings.

Zikry: The President has great affection for you and he asked me to convey his best greetings.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3769
Add-on #2


CONFIDENTIAL (GDS)

MEETING WITH VICE ADMIRAL FUAD MUHAMMAD AHMAD ZIKRI
COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE EGYPTIAN NAVY

Wednesday, July 14, 1976

10:20 a.m. (10 minutes)

The Oval Office

From: Brent Scowcroft 

I. PURPOSE

To receive from Vice Admiral Zikri Egypt's Bicentennial gift to the United States, and to exchange brief remarks on the U.S. -Egyptian bilateral relationship.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

- A. Background: In connection with the celebrations marking the Bicentennial, President Sadat has sent to the United States as his personal representative Vice Admiral Fuad Muhammad Zikri, Commander in Chief of the Egyptian Navy. Admiral Zikri participated in the International Naval Review in New York City Harbor aboard the Egyptian naval vessel HURRIYYA, known in its own right for being the first ship to have passed through the Suez Canal in 1869, and to have reopened the Canal last year. Admiral Zikri plans to depart Washington on or about the 15th of July. To our knowledge, this is Admiral Zikri's first visit to the U.S. He speaks English well and is a relaxed conversationalist . Als25X1 connection with our Bicentennial, President Sadat has personally chosen an 18th Dynasty limestone stele from about 1420 BC, as a gift from Egypt to the United States. A photograph and description of the stele are attached at Tab B. While the stele itself is too massive for a personal presentation, Admiral Zikri will make a symbolic presentation of this gift using a photograph in its stead.

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Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652
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December 31, 1982.

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Your meeting with Admiral Zikri will also provide an opportunity to reaffirm to him the warm relations between Egypt and the United States, and our intention to work closely with Egypt in the future in our search for a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It will permit you to extend through Admiral Zikri your best personal wishes to President Sadat.

- B. Participants: Vice Admiral Zikri; Egyptian Ambassador Ashraf Ghorbal; Secretary Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft.
- C. Press Arrangements: Meeting will be announced; White House Photographer.

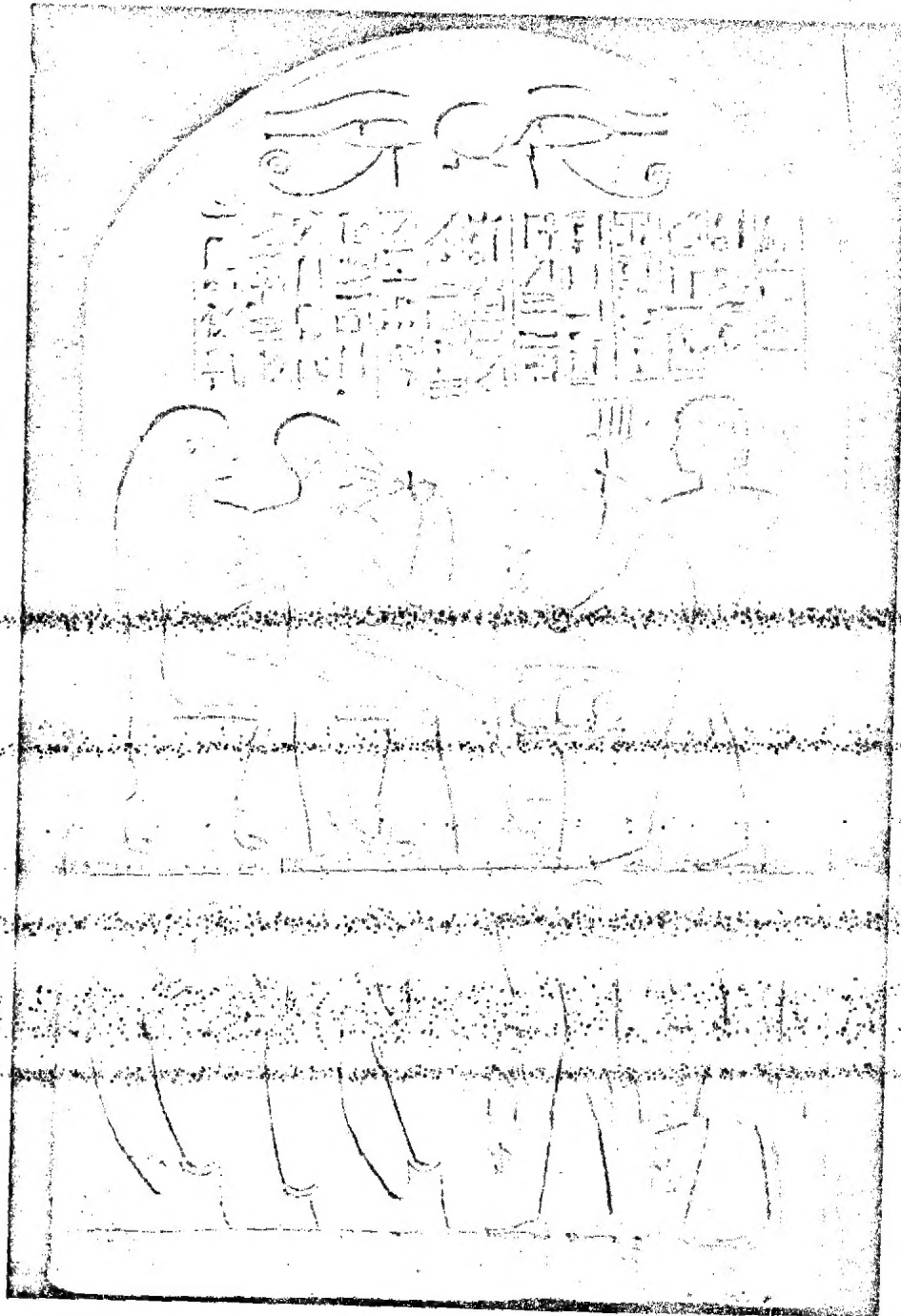
III. TALKING POINTS

- A. It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to meet you during what I understand is your first visit to the United States. This is also the first visit to this country of a senior Egyptian military commander since the 1967 war; as such, it symbolizes the developing close relationship between our two nations.
- B. I am deeply pleased to accept on behalf of the people of the United States the 18th Dynasty stele which President Sadat has sent. This gift comes as a treasure from one of the world's most ancient civilizations to our country which, even in its 200th year, is still very new.
- C. I would like you to convey upon your return to Egypt my very warmest personal wishes to President Sadat. During our talks last summer at Salzburg and his visit to the United States last fall, I developed great admiration and affection for President Sadat. His courage in seeking a final and just settlement for all aspects of the Middle East conflict have my deep respect. Please tell the President that the United States intends to persevere in its efforts to assist in this process, and that it considers the resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict to be a matter of highest foreign policy priority.
- D. Please also extend my personal greetings to the officers and men of the HURRIYYA during their visit to Washington.

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President Sadat's bicentennial gift to the
American people.

PRESIDENT SADAT'S BICENTENNIAL GIFT

TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Ibraheem El-Nawawy, First Curator, Egyptian Museum, has sent us a description, given below, of the antiquity to be presented to the American people on behalf of President Sadat by Admiral Zikry.

"A memorial stela of a Hather-Priest called N NWNW. Limestone, 75 centimeters high, 47.5 centimeters wide and 12.5 centimeters thick. The stela is round-topped. Depicted on it in the upper field in sunk relief, thirteen vertical lines of hieroglyphic text bringing the offering formula, the names, titles and epithets of the persons and gods mentioned in the formula.

Under the text we see, from right to left, a son who is standing before his parents censuring and libating. The son is called Neb-Pehetra, who was already dead and to whom the repeated life is wished. The parents are sitting on a sofa; before them is an offering table laden with bread and onions. The father is smelling a lotus-flower while his wife is holding him by the shoulder and by the arm. On the lower part of the stela, there is a representation of two children of NWNW (Paser, called clean of hands, and Hehhy) who stand before three big jars of liquids. The stela is of a good state of preservation. Provenance: Matarrya (Heliopolis) found the excavation of the antiquities organization behind the Technical High Institute (Temp No. 5/6 over 76/1); Date - Dynasty XVIII (about 1420 B.C.) "

The stela is of limestone and weighs 100 kilograms.